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Official Organ of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, And The Knights And Ladies of Harmony of The World, Oklahoma Jurisdiction

Vol. 3. No. 32

TULSA, OKLAHOMA, SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1915

Subscription \$1.00 Per Year

U. S. Supreme Court Kills Grandfather Clause

NEGROES WILL AGAIN VOTE IN OKLAHOMA.

THE DECISION of the U. S. supreme court declaring void the grandfather clause of Oklahoma comes as a relief not only to the Negroes of Oklahoma, but practically all of the southern states.

The law was wrong both in spirit and in application, and a blemish on the State, and it is extremely gratifying to all lovers of justice and fair play that the highest court in the land has stamped it out.

It was petty politics, that created this law, and corrupt politics in our courts has sustained it. By this decision the supreme court of the United States has declared that black men have every right under the Constitution that white men have. No one who has studied the grandfather clause has ever doubted that it would be knocked out when it reached the Supreme Court because it was a flagrant injustice. And yet it can not be denied that thousands of Republicans voted for it. This is a fact that should be remembered by Colored men in the future.

The Colored people of Oklahoma, fortunately, are more diversified in politics than in any other southern state, and any act of disfranchisement would be as harmful to the democrats as it would to republicans. If this fact is realized by the dominant parties the Colored voters need have no fear of being disfranchised.

Had we been more divided politically there would have been no grandfather clause. If we were all democrats the republicans would seek to keep us from the polls, just as the democrats in the south have tried to, because we have always been traditional republicans as a whole.

Some Colored men believe, or pretend to believe, that a bad republican is better than a good democrat. This is false reasoning, and while many white men in both parties are disciples of this doctrine, favoring their respective parties, it should be discouraged among Colored voters. A democrat who will do justice to all the people alike and honestly discharge his duties is a much better citizen than a republican who has not these qualities and vice versa.

We as a race need to use the ballot for our best interest, which instead of being wrapped up in one party is found in all of them.

Let the Colored voters stand for MEN and principles, above parties and politicians, and we need not fear the future.

WORLD TAKES COMMENDABLE STAND ON SUPREME COURT DECISION.

Negroes Will Vote.
Negroes will vote at all elections in Oklahoma from this time on. So declares the Supreme Court of the United States in an opinion declaring the celebrated "grandfather clause" unconstitutional. For seven years in Oklahoma the negro has been permitted to pay taxes, to engage in any sort of business and pay his license, but he could not vote. When it came to a vote in the selection of the men who were to levy the taxes and make the laws which govern him he was as mute as a tombstone. But now the shackles have been stricken from his feet and he will stand in the booth and mark his ticket like any other citizen.

Had there been any other justification or excuse for the "grandfather clause" except partisan supremacy, the continuation and perpetuation of the tyrannous and despotic Democratic machine, people might have been inclined to take a different view of the matter. Had the movement been in the direction of a more intelligent and a more competent electorate, a more elevated and capable citizenship, we might have been disposed to regret the interpretation which the highest court of the land places on the statute. But it is a matter of common knowledge that the statute was designed and intended to "stop the damned niggers from voting," whether it be an intelligent or an ignorant negro. At the same time the ignorant white man walked proudly into the voting booth and deposited his ballot just like the rest of us.

Purification of the ballot, purification

tion of politics, if you choose to have it so, will never come through statutes based on race prejudice and blind partisanship. Whenever the people really desire better politics, which means better government, they will hedge the ballot about with educational restrictions. Just because a man's skin is black is no more reason for his being barred from the rights of citizenship than it would be if his skin was green. We have often wondered what would happen if the negroes should ever control a state legislature and pass a statute practically disfranchising the white folks?

Restoration of the rights of citizenship to the negro is going to cause a flutter in the Democratic dovecote. The boys have been having such an easy time of it all the time, sitting at the first table and eating all the pie, that it will be severe punishment for some of them to get back to the loaves and fishes. Even with the negro vote eliminated the machine has been having pretty hard sledding the last two elections. Now it is going to have to get a hump on itself if it pulls through next year. For this every citizen in Oklahoma, who is honest, whether he is a Democrat, Republican or a Socialist, ought to be devoutly and sincerely thankful.—Tulsa World.

Indian Postmaster Has Special Rules For Colored People

Editor Refused to Comply with Humiliating Rules and Defies Postmaster.

Muskogee, Okla., June 19, 1915.—(Special to the Star.)—A somewhat exciting scene was caused in the post office here yesterday when postmaster Brewer, a mixed-blood Indian, insulted editor A. J. Smithman of the Tulsa Star by demanding him to remove his hat when the editor went into the postmaster's private office on business pertaining to his paper.

The editor refused to remove his hat or to leave the office when asked out by the postmaster, and defied the postmaster.

Editor Smithman claims that the postoffice authorities here notified him through the mails that several Muskogee subscribers to his paper had refused the Star. When he came here, however, he learned that this was untrue according to statements from subscribers and the carrier and he went to see the postmaster concerning this.

Since Brewer took charge of the post office here he has inaugurated a rule requiring Colored men to remove their hats when in his royal presence and it is said several complaints have been made against him to the post office department.

Editor Smithman will report the matter to the postal department through his congressman.

It is thought by some here that a certain carrier not on that beat sent the notification cards in the hope of decreasing the Star's circulation.

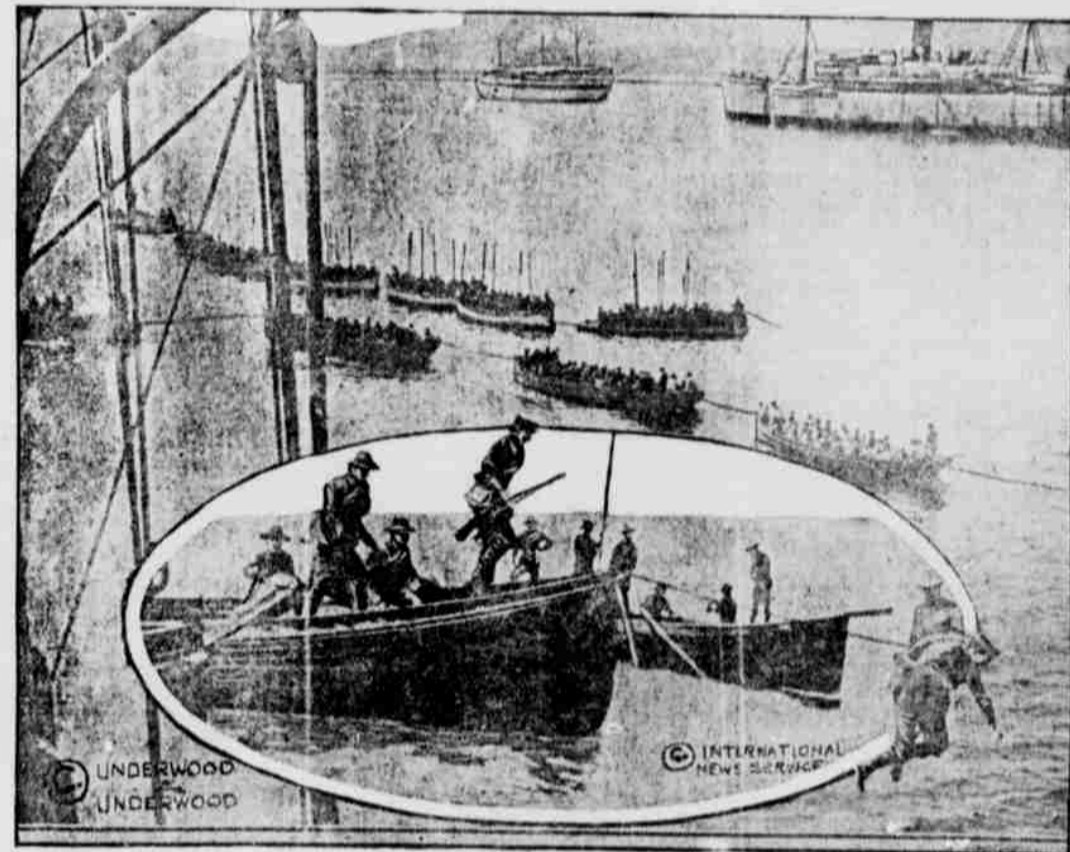
Dr. Wilson to Bring Suit Against R. I.

PROMINENT MEMPHIS SURGEON REFUSED PULLMAN ACCOMMODATIONS.

McAlester, Okla., June 21, 1915.—(Special to the Star.)—A heavy damage suit against the Rock Island railroad company growing out of the refusal of the ticket agent here to sell a Pullman ticket to Dr. J. T. Wilson, a prominent Negro surgeon of Memphis, will be filed in the federal court here in a few days, by lawyer Wm. Harrison of Oklahoma City.

Dr. Wilson had been called to Mus-

LANDING OF ALLIES ON GALLIPOLI PENINSULA



Procession of boats filled with allied expeditionary troops passing between the transports on their way towards Gallipoli peninsula. They are being towed by tugboats from the battleships. Just a few moments after this picture was taken a hidden land battery on the shores opened fire on the boats and succeeded in sinking one of them, though the men were rescued. Below, troops are seen landing.

kogee to perform an operation on Mrs. P. R. Austin, and was returning home last night by way of McAlester, when he applied for a Pullman reservation. The ticket agent flatly refused to sell him a ticket, saying that only white people could buy them.

The supreme court of the United States recently held that all railroads or Pullman companies doing business in Oklahoma must furnish equal accommodations for Colored passengers and Dr. Wilson intends to push this case to the limit, to compel such companies to comply with the law. Lawyer Harrison said Tuesday when seen here that it was a good case, and that he would soon be ready to start the fight.

HAIL ALL HAIL!
The 14th Anniversary of Advance Lodge, No. 17, A. F. & A. M. will be held in Oklahoma City, June 26 and 27. The occasion will be celebrated on a larger scale than anything ever given by the local lodge. Grand Master G. I. Currin and his officers will be present and also Rev. W. H. Logan of Tex., will deliver the Masonic sermon.

The celebration will begin with a Banquet on Saturday night and the ladies of the Eastern Star Chapter will be a prominent factor.

Pauls Valley Dots

Mrs. Kidd is still on the sick list. Mr. Frank Jones is on the mend. Rev. Johnson passed through Pauls Valley Saturday en route to Shawnee. The picnic on the 18th and 19th was grand. Hurrah for the Colored people of Pauls Valley!

Mrs. Pean and niece visited the city a few days this week, and were in attendance at the picnic.

Mrs. Frances Perry and son are visiting her sister for a few weeks.

We wish all the ladies of the Sewing Circle would give us their attendance. Mrs. Annie Maxey is on the mend, and looking much better since she has been here.

Ask for the Tulsa Star at the home of T. A. Johnson.

STRADFORD CONTINUES JOURNEY THROUGH EAST.

Writes Interestingly On His Observations Enroute

Editor of the Star:

Dear Sir:—Bidding adieu to the metropolis of our country, a city beyond all expectation the most grand, magnificent, attractive and wonderful to my mind, at 12:30 a. m., I arrived in Washington, D. C., at 8:45 the following morning. A city famed for its grandeur, its magnificent structures and the beauty of its streets. As soon as I arrived I was conveyed to Howard University where I found my friend Roy Tibb, professor of the piano department of music in the conservatory. He was delighted to see me and proceeded to make my stay in Washington a pleasant one.

After breakfast we visited all the buildings, beginning with the main building on the south of the grounds and on the east of the girls dormitories, and several other buildings overlooking the city, the waterworks and reservoir on the north, and the boys' dormitory on the west, the library building, the law department, down in the city, and also the hospital and medical department, which I believe is the best equipped and most efficient institution for colored people in the United States. From my observation I believe that the medical department of Howard University is the best in the United States for Colored men to attend. If I had a dozen boys to educate in medicine every one of them would be educated in Howard U. 1st, because there is no privilege denied the student. They have the advantages of all the clinics, they have no trouble in getting patients to attend. Space will not allow me to say more along this line. Upon the whole Howard is the best equipped institution of learning for our people in this country.

After completing our sightseeing of Howard we visited the national capital. Had I the power of language to express the beauty, the sublimity and grandeur of that building and its arts I could make you laugh, I could make you weep. When the spot was pointed out to me where nearly one hundred years ago John Q. Adams dropped dead in the House of Representatives I stood on that spot and felt that I was standing on the line which divided time and eternity, the mortal from immortality. Then on turning around and viewing the statues of all the great men of our country, who have come upon the stage of action played their parts in the drama of life and have taken their places in the silent halls of death. That old Titanic expression presents itself most forcibly to me. "There's no Jew, no Greek, no bond, no free, but all one in Christ Jesus."

Other places of interest visited were Congressional library, Senate hall, house of representatives, White House and other places of interest.

I find in Washington that our people are doing well, more of them are employed in public work than in other cities which I have visited up to this time. My next stop was Versailles, Ky. I found the conditions there very very bad relative to our people. It would take up too much space in your paper to give you a complete history of the state of affairs as they exist. I will attempt to give you a short synopsis and some future day I may write more fully on the subject.

Our people in Versailles are a class of moral cowards. The public school system is used to make them feel that they are not as good as white folks; the officers of the law, for no offense, beat, maim and often kill, and any white man can do the same without being punished. Prior to the time tobacco became the leading staple of Ky., we had a great many prosperous farmers, who rented farms or in other words were the principal farmers of the state. That condition has changed since tobacco has become the leading product. Now the poor white

man is the tobacco grower, they have gained possession of all the farms, crowded our people into the cities and towns, and those of them who refuse to go are forced by the "possum hunters" or night riders, who go to their homes by night, beat, insult and kill them, until it is a hard matter to find a Colored farmer on a farm in Ky. They are forced into the city and towns and are paid for their labor, females from 75c to \$1.50 per week and in rare cases \$2.00 per week. The males from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per week. Thus you see from the above that instead of elevating the tendency is degeneration. I can see no hope for our people under the circumstances. The white people here have no objection to a black man aspiring to be king of his people, but if he demands those rights which are guaranteed to him by the constitution, the rights of life liberty and the pursuit of happiness, he is called a bad nigger, and the only salvation for him is to move to a safer clime.

The next place of interest I visited was Lexington, Ky. I have seen the beautiful landscapes of the Blue Ridge mountains of Va., the mountains, valleys and plains of the Allegheny, the snow capped peaks of the Rockies in Washington; I have looked with wonder upon those peaks towering above the clouds, but I have never in all my travels seen such a beautiful country as the blue grass region of Kentucky. I consider that region the garden spot of the United States. Going from Versailles to Lexington, you will see the most beautiful country—rolling hills and valleys, green fields, wooded lawns, palatial homes and brooks and creeks meandering down the hills. Within a few miles of Lexington you can see the statue of Henry Clay, towering high above the surrounding country under which lay the greatest compromise the world has ever seen. Arriving in Lexington we find conditions a little better for our people. It is quite cosmopolitan. We have a representative class of citizens, some rich and a great majority of them own their homes and represent nearly all the different trades and professions in Lexington, like all the cities which I have visited our people are individually prosperous.

Other places visited, Lawrenceburg, where I once taught, I met a host of friends, both white and Colored. I met a Mr. Arthur Bond of Tulsa. He sent by me to have a pint of Belle of Anderson sour mash whiskey. He can have some by calling at 301 N. Greenwood.

Louisville is a great city, although they have Jim Crow laws on the statute books they are not enforcing it in many places. The segregation law has worked a hardship on many of our people. I will cite here one instance. Mrs. Murphy owns a very valuable piece of property on Broadway, the only colored person who lived in that block, she moved to another city put the property in the hands of an agent for rent. He rented it to a white family, they discovered that the house had been tenemented by a Colored family, they moved out. Mrs. Murphy moved back to Louisville, and she was not permitted to live in her own house. So the house stands vacant and is going to ruin. Among other things Louisville has a Y. M. C. A., two public libraries and quite a number of parks for our Colored people, which are very elevating to our race.

I find in New Albany, Ind., that the Colored people are doing something collectively for the race, they have there what is known as the Mill City Cotton Mills of Indiana, incorporated, capital stock \$50,000, paid up stock \$25,000. Mill description: floor space 15,000 sq. feet, capacity 200 operatives 135 looms, electric power, organized financed and officered and operated within the race. Here 200 of our people are given jobs, and not until our people are aroused to a sense of their duty and begin to make jobs for our people in the commercial and manufacturing world we will never be able to develop into that state where our influence will be felt strongly in the economic system of this country.

Officers: Henry Bain, pres., J. E. Wiley, treas. & manager, Albert R. Wiley, Jr., supt., A. M. Bowman, Asst. Sec., Rev. J. H. Perdue, Lee Brown, auditor.

Hoping this letter will find all well I am your most respectfully,

J. E. STRADFORD.

E. W. Shaw
This signature is on every box of the genuine laxative Senna-Quinine Tablets. Be sure that each box has the name E. W. Shaw on it.